

**From:** wimhoa@charter.net  
**To:** Michael Copps  
**Date:** Thu. Apr 3, 2003 7:01 AM  
**Subject:** Preserve Media Diversity: Keep the FCC Rulemaking an Open Process

FCC Commissioner Michael C. Copps

Dear FCC Commissioner Michael C. Copps,

The Federal Communications Commission (FCC) is currently considering sweeping changes to broadcast ownership rules. Repeal or significant modification of these rules would likely open the door to numerous mergers that could reduce competition and diversity in the media.

Before the media ownership rules are issued in final form, the public must have the opportunity to review and comment on any specific changes the Commission plans to make.

If media ownership rules are seriously weakened, one company in a town could control the most popular newspaper, TV station, and possibly even a cable system giving it dominant influence over the content and slant of local news. Such a move would reduce the diversity of cultural and political discussion in a community. It could also raise costs for businesses and candidates that use local media for advertising.

While the Commission issued a Notice of Proposed Rulemaking on media ownership, it proposed no actual rule. Accordingly, no public comment has been received on any specific changes. We believe that additional input from the public will help the Commission see the strengths and weaknesses of any new approach.

I encourage you to provide a detailed description of all proposed changes, their empirical basis, and a meaningful period of time for the public to review and comment on any proposed changes before a final rule is issued.

The stakes for citizens and the nation are enormous. More information, not **less**, about proposed changes would best serve the public interest. Indeed, we hope the Commission would do everything in its power to keep the rulemaking process as open and inclusive as possible.

Sincerely,

Kristen Zehner  
118 **Blue** Spruce  
Marshall, Wisconsin 53559

**From:** iuelocal901@msn.com  
**To:** Kathleen Abernathy  
**Date:** Thu. Apr 3, 2003 7:22 AM  
**Subject:** Preserve Media Diversity: Keep the FCC Rulemaking an Open Process

FCC Commissioner Kathleen Q. Abernathy

Dear FCC Commissioner Kathleen Q. Abernathy,

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Sincerely,

Michael **Betts**, President  
1427 Broadway  
Fort Wayne, Indiana 46802

**From:** iuelocal901@msn.com  
**To:** Mike Powell  
**Date:** Thu, Apr 3, 2003 7:22 AM  
**Subject:** Preserve Media Diversity: Keep the FCC Rulemaking an Open Process

FCC Chairman Michael K. Powell  
445 12th Street, SW  
Washington, DC 20554

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Sincerely,

Michael Betts, President  
1427 Broadway  
Fort Wayne, Indiana 46802

From: Carleton B. Spotts  
To: Commissioner Adelstein  
Date: Sat, Mar 29, 2003 12:04 PM  
Subject: Comments to the Commissioner

Carleton B. Spotts (spotts234@mchsi.com) writes:

I am pleased to see that you are fighting to maintain, I hope also to increase, competition between media companies. I am particularly concerned about news coverage and the bias and uniformity it already shows; I believe much of that bias and uniformity happens because of ownership by a few large corporations that are, in many cases, "in bed with the government. That bias and uniformity, in my opinion, is very dangerous to our freedom of the press and to our democratic form of government. Again, thank you for being supportive of diversity of ownership.

Server protocol: HTTP1.1  
Remote host: 12.216.245.213  
Remote IP address: 12.216.245.213

**From:** iuelocal901@msn.com  
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**Date:** Thu. Apr 3, 2003 7:22 AM  
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Michael Betts, President  
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Fort Wayne, Indiana 46802